

LEAKE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
for the Year Ending 31st December 1905.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health of your District during the Year 1905.

Area in Statute Acres	17,076
Population 1901	3,709
Number of Inhabited Houses	857
Average number of persons per house	4.3

BIRTHS.

The total number of Births registered was 83, which is 14 less than last year, and 12 below the average of the last ten years, and is equal to an Annual birth-rate of 22.9, which is very low.

MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths registered as occurring within the District is 59, which is exactly the same number as last year; to this number must be added 8 deaths of residents which occurred in institutions outside the district, namely Loughborough Workhouse and Hospital, Nottingham County Asylum, and Nottingham Infirmary. This brings the total corrected Mortality up to 67, which is 6 more than last year, and 15 above the average of the last ten years, and is equal to an annual death-rate of 18 per thousand of the population. This increase in mortality is due to the 8 deaths above mentioned, as well as to 8 deaths from Zymotic diseases, which will be dealt with below.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths of infants under one year is 8, which is one more than last year, and one above the average of the last ten years. This is an infantile mortality of 96 per thousand births registered, which is low.

ZYMOTIC MORTALITY.

The total number of Deaths from Zymotic diseases was 8, which is 2 less than last year, but is 3 above the average of the last ten years, and is a Zymotic death-rate of 2.1 per thousand, which is much too high for a rural district. It was caused by a final extension of the Leake Epidemic of Diphtheria, now happily extinct, causing 3 deaths, one at Costock, one at Sutton Bonington, one at Wysall. Two deaths from Measles, one at East Leake, and one at Normanton. One death from Whooping Cough at Costock, one from Enteric Fever at Normanton, and one from Diarrhoea at East Leake.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED.

The total number of cases of Infectious diseases notified was 26. The cases were as follows :-

Diphtheria	10
Scarlet Fever	2
Enteric Fever	14
Puerperal Fever	2



DIPHTHERIA.

Ten cases of this disease occurred, one at Sutton Bonington which was imported, 3 at East Leake, one at Rempstone the origin of which it was impossible to discover; 3 at Costock, and 2 at Wysall, extensions of the East Leake Epidemic. The last of the East Leake cases was notified on the 14th March. The School which was enlarged and renovated, has been open since the 10th of April.

SCARLET FEVER.

Two cases of this disease occurred at East Leake, one at the end of March, and the other about the middle of April; in the first case the disease was probably contracted at Loughborough, the cases were isolated in their own homes and there was no further spread.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Fourteen cases of this disease occurred, in nine families, in the Parishes of Sutton Bonington and Normanton, seven families lived in the former, and two in the latter parish. All the first cases in each family were notified between the 8th September and the 13th October, after which no fresh family was invaded by the disease with one exception, a boy of 10 years. All the first cases in each family were adults, so there was no question of school influence; no two of the families lived in the same court or yard, and there was no evidence of inter~~xxxxx~~-communication, but rather the reverse. Almost all the families had its milk supply from a different source. The water supply in each case was different, and in only two cases did the water supply show evidence, on chemical analysis, of harmful organic pollution. In one of these latter the occupier, Mrs Tongue, stated that she made Ginger beer, and sold it at her home and to retailers. I strongly suspected this as a cause, but by the most careful enquiries I could not elicit that any of the patients had partaken of this beverage; nevertheless, I am quite of opinion that to some food or beverage purchased, and consumed by the persons first affected in each family, must be attributed the origin of the outbreak, and not to the water supply. What this particular food or beverage was, will probably never be discovered. As I stated in my special report on this outbreak, the water supply in this district is never above suspicion, and the drainage, especially of Sutton Bonington, leaves a good deal to be desired; nevertheless, its general sanitary condition will compare favourably with most villages of its kind, and it is peculiar to note in the forms which I lay before you, (in view of the amount of public attention which has been fixed on this village) that while all the other parishes, with the exception of West Leake, are up to, or above the average of deaths, Sutton*6 below the average of the last ten years. A large amount of Sanitary work has been done in Sutton Bonington and Normanton in consequence of this outbreak, drains have been cleansed, and a large number of wells have been cleansed and examined. Handbills have also been printed and distributed, and all infected premises disinfected and cleansed. An important arrangement has been entered upon with the Borough of Loughborough, whereby any cases of Diphtheria and Enteric Fever arising in this district, may be isolated at the Borough Isolation Hospital. There was one death due to this outbreak.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Two cases of this disease occurred, one at Sutton Bonington, and one at Rempstone, the former, a mild illdefined case, was not traceable to any previously existing septic case, nor were there any

local insanitary conditions; the latter case was referable to insanitary surroundings.. In each case every precaution was taken to prevent the disease from being carried to other parturient women. In each case I made a special report to the Nottinghamshire County Council, for which I received a fee of half a guinea.

MEASLES.

Two Epidemics of this disease occurred during the year, necessitating school closure, the former in March at Rempstone, where the disease was carried by a boy attending the Hickling School at Loughborough, and the latter in December at Wornanton, where the disease was brought from the Rosebery Street School, Loughborough,. On the closing of the schools the epidemics rapidly subsided. There were no cases in the District at the end of the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water supply of the District is derived exclusively from wells, and as the quality of well water is constantly liable to change, on account of contamination by soakage of liquid filth from the surface of the adjacent ground, movement of subsoil water, etc., the matter has received constant attention during the year. 33 samples of drinking water were submitted to me for analysis by your Inspector of Nuisances; in 2 cases the water was so impure as to justify me in condemning it as unfit for drinking. In each of these cases steps were taken to provide a suitable supply of drinking water.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

This is accomplished in the old-fashioned manner by the common midden and privy arrangement, and it has answered fairly satisfactorily. Cases of over-full or leaky middens occasionally occur, but they are soon detected by the Inspector, who takes steps to have the nuisance abated, and a recurrence prevented.

DRAINAGE.

Throughout the whole District liquid house refuse and slopwater, other than that which is collected in the middens above-mentioned, runs off by the natural channels of drainage, which in most instances are long tortuous dykes leading to the nearest river or brook; most of the suspended matter is deposited from the sewage water in these dykes, which are periodically cleansed by order of the Council, so that there is very little pollution of rivers from any of the villages constituting the District.

The Report of the Inspector of Nuisances hereto appended, will show in detail the amount of sanitary work accomplished during the year.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT 1901.

In the administration of this Act, periodical visits were made to the houses of 100 home workers, 35 workplaces, and one small factory. In four outworkers houses work was suspended on account of the existence of infectious diseases, and in two such houses the families were found to be overcrowded, and steps were taken to abate the same. In all other cases the regulations had been properly complied with.

Appended are tabulated Statistics as to population, births, and mortality for the present and ten previous years; also of infectious disease notified during the year, and of deaths classified according to diseases, ages, and localities; also of deaths under one year classified according to diseases and ages, copies of which, as well as this Report, when printed, it will be necessary to send to the Nottinghamshire County Council, the Home Office, and the Local Government Board.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS CORCORAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS.

Mortality from subjoined cases : Measles 2, Whooping-Cough 1, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup 3, Enteric Fever 1, Diarrhoea 1, Phthisis 2, Other Tubercular diseases 1, Cancer 5, Bronchitis 3, Pneumonia 3, Alcoholism 1, Premature Birth 1, Heart diseases 13, Accidents 4, Suicides 1, All other causes 17; Total 59.

Parish.	Births Registered	Average last 10 years	Deaths Registered	Average last 10 years
Costock	5	7	3	3
East Leake	27	26	16	12
Normanton	11	10	6	4
Rempstone	5	7	5	4
Stanford	4	4	3	1
Sutton Bonington	11	21	9	15
Thorpe in Clebe & Wysall	5	4	4	3
West Leake	1	3	-	2
Willoughby	14	10	6	4

Total Births registered	83
Average last 10 years	35
Rate per 1000 for last year	22.9
Average last 10 years	25.3
Total Deaths registered	59
Average last 10 years	32
Rate per 1000 for last year	15.0
Average last 10 years	14.2

To the Chairman and Members of the
Leake Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

During the past year I have made 656 inspections of the parishes comprising the Leake Rural District.

Houses disinfected after infectious disease at the expense of the Authority	23
Schools disinfected	2
Samples of water taken for analysis	33
Wells closed and new provided	2
Wells cleansed and surroundings examined	3
Overcrowded-houses abated	1
Middens and ashes-bins emptied by order	11
New middens and ash-bins provided	1
Insanitary premises rectified	3
Houses made habitable by repairing	3
Dirty houses cleansed	1
Drains taken up and cleansed by owners.....	5
New drains provided by order of the Council	3

The sewage dykes in the various parishes have been cleansed as often as required.

The Cow-sheds and Dairies of the Purveyors of Milk I have visited periodically, and found them in a fair state of cleanliness. Three fresh dairies have been registered during the past year.

FACTORY & WORKSHOPS ACT 1901.- Periodical visits have been made to the Workshops, Workplaces, Bakehouses, Slaughterhouses, and to the homes of the Outworkers in the District. Work was suspended in the houses of 4 outworkers because of infectious disease, and 2 houses were found to be overcrowded.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GALLIO BOWLES,

Inspector of Nuisances.

East Leake,

January 1906.

